

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request that the present remarks be entered and made of record in the instant application.

The Claims

Applicants have canceled claims 15, 19, 37, 47, 56, and 65-66; amended claims 2, 11-14, and 92-93; and added new claims 97-108. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2, 11-14, 92-93, and 97-108 are pending in the application, with claim 2 being the sole independent claim.

Claims 2, 11-14, and 92-93 are sought to be amended to correct proper antecedent basis, to change claim dependency and/or to more clearly define the claimed subject matter.

Support for the amendment of claims 2, 11-14, and 93 is found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page 7, lines 11-12 and 24-27; page 13, lines 8-14; page 16, lines 25-27; page 21, lines 6-16; page 23, line 28 to page 24, line 12; and page 25, line 29 to page 26, line 2. Support for the amendment of claim 92 is found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page 20, line 13 to page 21, line 5; page 38, lines 24-28; and Examples 3 and 9.

Support for new claims 97-102 can be found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page 1, lines 17-19; page 6, line 27 to page 7, line 2; page 9, lines 4-11; page 16, lines 3-10. Support for new claims 103-106 can be found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page 7, lines 3-12 and 24-27; page 13, lines 8-14; page 16, lines 25-27; page 21, lines 6-16; page 24, lines 11-12; and page 25, line 29 to page 26, line 2. Support for new claim 107 can be found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page

23, line 8 to page 25, line 21 and Example 1. Support for new claim 108 can be found throughout the specification, *e.g.*, page 26, lines 15-18; page 28, line 27 to page 29, line 9; and Example 1.

Restriction

In reply to the Office Action dated March 28, 2006, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group I, represented by previous claims 2, 11-15, 19, 92 and 93. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. This election is made without traverse.

The Examiner additionally required an election of a single species of ingredient as recited in claims 19, 65, 66, 93 and 94. (Office Action, pages 3-4.) In response to the Election of Species requirement, Applicants hereby elect IGF-1. This election is made without traverse. Claims 2, 11-14, 92, 93 and 97-108 are readable upon the elected species.

Applicants note that, according to the Office Action, Group III consists of claim 55. (Office Action, pages 3-4.) Applicants believe this to be a typographical error and believe that Group III is meant to contain claim 56. Applicants also note that claim 47 was not allocated to any group. Applicants believe that claim 47 should be part of Group II.

Applicants have canceled the claims related to non-elected Groups II and III. Applicants have amended the claims of Group I and added new claims 97-108. Applicants believe that all of the claims presented herein are within the scope of Group I.

Conclusion

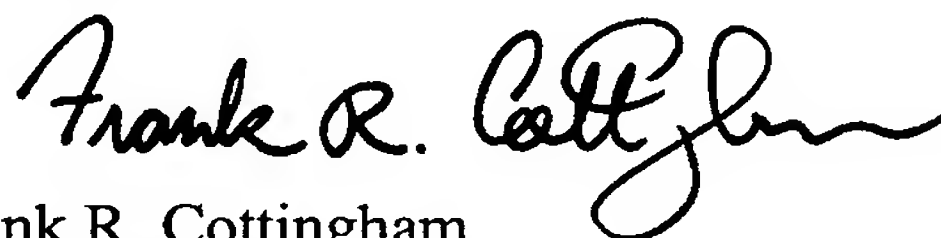
It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to the Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

If any issues remain in connection herewith or a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss.

Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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